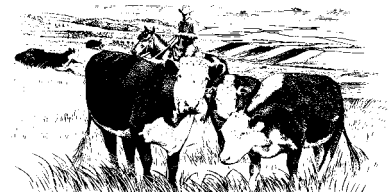


California Livestock Review



Frequency: Monthly
Released: April 25, 2001

(USPS 598-250)
VOL. 23 NO. 4



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

Cattle on Feed	1-2
Farm Prices and Milk Production	2
Livestock Slaughter	3

CATTLE ON FEED IN CALIFORNIA

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 435 thousand head on April 1, 2001, 1 percent below last month, but 7 percent above April 2000. During March, placements of 65.0 thousand head were 10 percent above the previous year. Marketings of 56.0 thousand head were 10 percent above March 2000. Other disappearance totaled 14.0 thousand head.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED UP 3 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 11.52 million head on April 1, 2001. The inventory was 3 percent above April 1, 2000 and 11 percent above April 1, 1999. The inventory included 6.96 million steers and steer calves, up 2 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 60 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.49 million head, up 3 percent from 2000.

Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.85 million, 9 percent below both 2000 and 1999. Net placements were 1.75 million. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 330 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 416 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 618 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 488 thousand. Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.93 million, 6 percent below 2000 and 3 percent below 1999. Other disappearance totaled 98.0 during March, 5 percent below 2000, but 38 percent above 1999.

CATTLE ON FEED UP 3 PERCENT IN HISTORIC SEVEN MONTHLY STATES

Cattle on feed April 1, 2001 in the historic seven states for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 9.86 million, up 3 percent from the previous year and 11 percent above April 1, 1999. The inventory included 5.89 million steers and steer calves, up 2 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 60 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.91 million head, up 3 percent from 2000. Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.54 million, 11 percent below 2000 and 12 percent below 1999. Marketings during March totaled 1.61 million, 9 percent below 2000 and 3 percent below 1999. Other disappearance during March was 80.0 thousand head, 8 percent above 2000 and 54 percent above 1999.

CATTLE AND CALVES ON FEED IN 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS IN SEVEN SELECTED STATES

State	Number On Feed March 1 ^{1/}			Placed During March		Marketed During March	
	2000	2001	2001/2000	2000	2001	2000	2001
	1,000 Head						
Arizona	275	307	112	30	29	27	22
California	405	440	109	59	65	51	56
Colorado	1,180	1,190	101	270	230	250	220
Iowa	375	385	103	57	46	56	45
Kansas	2,320	2,470	106	400	395	420	385
Nebraska	2,310	2,380	103	400	320	390	335
Texas	2,830	2,840	100	520	455	570	550
Seven-State Total	9,695	10,012	103	1,736	1,540	1,764	1,613
State	Other Disappearance During March ^{2/}		Number On Feed April 1		2001/2000		
	2000	2001	2000	2001			
	1,000 Head					Percent	
Arizona	5	5	273	309	113		
California	8	14	405	435	107		
Colorado	10	10	1,190	1,190	100		
Iowa	1	1	375	385	103		
Kansas	20	20	2,280	2,460	108		
Nebraska	10	15	2,310	2,350	102		
Texas	20	15	2,760	2,730	99		
Seven-State Total	74	80	9,593	9,859	103		

^{1/} Cattle and calves on feed are animals being fed for slaughter market on grain or other concentrates, and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

^{2/} Includes death losses, movement from feedlot to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

CALIFORNIA MILK PRODUCTION

California milk producers produced 2.80 billion pounds of milk in March 2001. This was 11 percent above February 2001 and 2 percent above March 2000.

Monthly milk per cow averaged 1,785 pounds. This was 170 pounds more than February 2001, but 40 pounds less than a year ago.

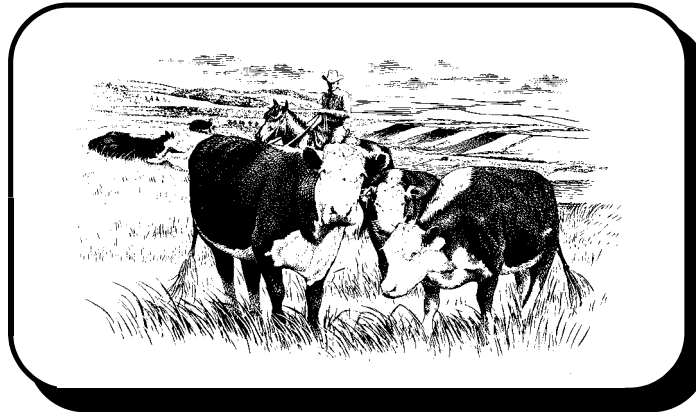
CALIFORNIA MILK PRODUCTION

Month	CALIFORNIA 1/						Total Milk Receipts 2/		UNITED STATES 1/ 3/					
	Milk Cows		Milk Per Cow		Milk Production				Milk Cows		Milk Per Cow		Milk Production	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds				1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds	
Jan.	1,492	1,562	1,815	1,760	2,708	2,749	2,706	2,748	7,764	7,783	1,579	1,550	12,259	12,062
Feb.	1,496	1,567	1,710	1,615	2,558	2,531	2,556	2,526	7,766	7,767	1,506	1,431	11,694	11,112
Mar.	1,501	1,570	1,825	1,785	2,739	2,802	2,736		7,776	7,758	1,632	1,599	12,687	12,403
Apr.	1,506		1,815		2,733		2,729		7,789		1,593		12,411	
May	1,513		1,850		2,799		2,796		7,799		1,636		12,758	
June	1,518		1,760		2,672		2,669		7,808		1,547		12,082	
July	1,525		1,825		2,783		2,781		7,821		1,561		12,205	
Aug.	1,533		1,750		2,683		2,679		7,820		1,525		11,928	
Sept.	1,540		1,685		2,595		2,593		7,820		1,464		11,451	
Oct.	1,545		1,735		2,681		2,679		7,817		1,511		11,813	
Nov.	1,550		1,670		2,589		2,585		7,805		1,459		11,385	
Dec.	1,556		1,735		2,700		2,698		7,803		1,519		11,855	

1/ Revised 2000 data.

2/ Milk receipts are from the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Dairy Marketing and Milk Pooling Branches. Excludes on-farm usage.

3/ Twenty-state total.



AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS, CALIFORNIA AND U.S. 1/

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		March 2000	February 2001	March 15, 2001	March 2000	February 2001	March 15, 2001
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	94.00	101.00	110.00	74.80	86.80	87.20
Alfalfa, Baled 2/	Ton	95.00	103.00	111.00	77.70	94.20	93.70
Hogs 2/ 3/	Cwt.	---	---	---	41.70	39.10	45.10
Cows 2/	Cwt.	36.50	40.50	42.00	39.00	42.70	43.20
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	69.00	78.00	79.00	73.40	78.90	81.10
Calves 2/	Cwt.	97.50	95.50	97.50	109.00	109.00	111.00
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	37.50	38.00	---	38.80	43.60	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	80.00	78.00	---	80.20	80.10	---
Milk Cows 4/	Head	---	---	---	---	---	---
All Milk Whsle. 2/	Cwt.	10.90	11.90	12.50	11.90	13.00	13.60

1/ The estimated prices in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers and are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

2/ Previous month revised to monthly average.

3/ Price includes barrows, gilts, and sows.

4/ Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices published January, April, July, and October.

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California's production of red meat during March 2001 totaled 93.4 million pounds (dressed weight), 15 percent more than last month, but 8 percent below March 2000. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In March 2001, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,248 pounds; calves, 152 pounds; and hogs 223 pounds.

U.S. VEAL AND LAMB PRODUCTION SET RECORD LOWS FOR MARCH

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.78 billion pounds in March, down 7 percent from the 4.05 billion pounds produced in March 2000.

March 2000 contained 23 weekdays and four Saturdays.
March 2001 contained 22 weekdays and five Saturdays.

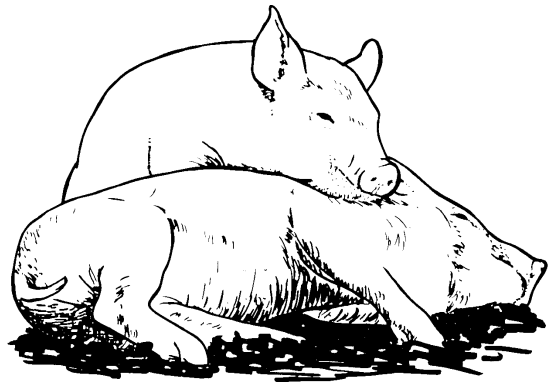
Beef production, at 2.12 billion pounds, was 8 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.92 million head, down 7 percent from March 2000. The average live weight was down 6 pounds from the previous year to 1,209 pounds.

Veal production totaled 16.0 million pounds, 17 percent below last year's record-low for March. Calf slaughter totaled 84.0 thousand head, down 18 percent from March 2000. The average live weight, at 323 pounds, was 3 pounds above last year.

Pork production totaled 1.63 billion pounds, down 5 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.33 million head, 6 percent below March 2000. The average live weight was 264 pounds, 2 pounds above the previous years.

Lamb and mutton production, at 23.0 million pounds, was down 3 percent from March 2000, which was also the previous March record low. Sheep slaughter totaled 326 thousand head, 6 percent below last year. The average live weight was 143 pounds, up 3 pounds from March a year ago.

January - March red meat production was 11.1 billion pounds, 4 percent below the comparable figure a year ago. Using comparable figures from last year, beef production was 7 percent lower, veal production was 10 percent lower, pork production was down 1 percent, and lamb and mutton production was 5 percent lower.



COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, MARCH 2000-01 a/

Species and Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
CATTLE						
California	91.8	88.5	112,936	110,476	1,230	1,248
U.S.	3,131.6	2,918.2	3,803,596	3,527,226	1,215	1,209
CALVES						
California	11.5	8.1	1,757	1,225	153	152
U.S.	102.9	84.2	32,935	27,193	320	323
SHEEP & LAMBS						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S.	347.0	326.4	48,429	46,792	140	143
HOGS						
California	201.9	195.4	44,221	43,543	219	223
U.S.	8,822.1	8,326.7	2,312,702	2,197,551	262	264
RED MEAT	March 2000	February 2001 <u>b/</u>	March 2001	Mar. 01 Mar. 00	Mar. 01 Feb. 01	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	94.9	81.0	93.4	98	115	
U.S.	4,048.2	3,401.8	3,781.3	93	111	

a/ Farm slaughter excluded.

b/ Revised U.S. total.